

preach the Word had no limits. The Church continued to grow, and in 1971 Brother Bob launched the Knoxville Baptist Christian School, which is still going strong today.

Knowing that there were more people who needed to hear his message than his pews could hold, Brother Bob also published many newsletters and newspaper columns and launched a radio ministry called the Revival of the Air in 1948. Broadcasts continued right up until his passing.

While eulogizing Brother Bob, the current Pastor of Knoxville Baptist Tabernacle Church, Brother Tony Greene, spoke of Brother Bob's legacy, saying "From this church have gone hundreds of soul winners, preachers, and missionaries. At this church have preached the mighty voices of the 20th century."

He continued, "Just hours before his Homegoing, the Lord allowed Brother Bob the strength to do one final radio broadcast. What a testimony of faithfulness to the end! A life well-lived, to the finish. 'Well done, thou good and faithful servant.'"

In a recent tribute to Brother Bob, a commentator in the Knoxville News Sentinel appropriately wrote, "Maybe the words 'good and decent' don't tell the whole story. Brother Bob, you were one exceptional man."

Madam Speaker, the passing of Brother Bob Bevington is a tremendous loss for my District, his wife Mary Lou, daughter and son-in-law Marilyn and Bob Russell, his grandchildren and great-grandchildren, many other family and friends and the thousands of people devoted to his message of loving the Lord. I want to call his service and faith in God to the attention of my Colleagues and other readers of the RECORD and thank him for showing us all the way to a better life.

HONORING BOB MCINTURF

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Bob McInturf upon being honored with the "Lifetime Achievement Award" at the 2009 San Joaquin Winegrowers Association 7th Annual San Joaquin Valley Wine & Grape Industry Forum. The luncheon will be held in Fresno, California on Friday, November 20, 2009.

Mr. Bob McInturf began farming in Madera and Fresno counties in 1946. For approximately fifty years he has been an integral member of the farming community; promoting farmers and small business owners, and working closely with vineyards around the San Joaquin Valley. Mr. McInturf was one of the original incorporators of Allied Grape Growers and served as President from 1956 through 1987. He has also served on the board of directors for Sun Maid Raisin Growers, the Agricultural Council of California, the National Council of Farm Cooperatives, the California Association of Winegrape Growers and the San Joaquin Valley Winegrowers Association. Mr. McInturf is the past chairman of the Agricultural Advisory Committee for the University of California.

Mr. McInturf has worked on many boards and committees representing the grape and agricultural industry on the local, state, national and international arenas. For many

years he was involved with the marketing order of grapes for crushing and served as chairman of the Specialty Crop Committee for Trade Negotiations with the European Community Market.

Mr. McInturf and his wife, Rosalie, had lived in Fresno most of their lives. After Mr. McInturf retired they moved to Roseville, California. They have two children, Cindy and Stan. Mr. McInturf has been involved with his church and many church activities throughout his life.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Bob McInturf upon being honored with the "Lifetime Achievement Award." I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Mr. McInturf many years of continued success.

TRIBUTE TO FORMER ALABAMA STATE SENATOR PIERRE PELHAM

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, last week, Alabama lost one of its luminaries—a gifted public servant who will be remembered not only for his articulate and persuasive oratory, but also for his many contributions to our region.

Former State Senator Pierre Pelham of Mobile passed away on December 3, 2009, at the age of 80.

A native of Chatom, Alabama, Pierre Pelham was a scholar, a patriot, and an astute and skilled politician who was admired by many.

Senator Pelham distinguished himself early in life as a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the University of Alabama and went on to graduate cum laude from Harvard University Law School.

He served his country during the Korean War, rising to the rank of Lieutenant in the Army. During his military service, he earned the Combat Infantryman and the Expert Infantryman badges.

Back home in Alabama, he developed a passion for public service. He was a delegate to the Democratic National Conventions in 1960 and 1964, laying the groundwork for later public office. From 1966 to 1974, he represented Mobile in the Alabama State Senate. He attained the position of president pro tempore of the Alabama Senate while only in his second term.

During his political career, Senator Pelham is credited with helping to establish the College of Medicine at the University of South Alabama in Mobile. Today, the USA College of Medicine plays a leading role in education and research to save the lives of thousands of Alabamians and others along the Gulf Coast.

A Fellow of Harvard University's Kennedy Institute of Politics, Senator Pelham was widely known for his command of the political craft and the spoken word. He was formidable in his ability to persuade his colleagues during debate.

Senator Pelham was also known for his deep, abiding faith and his lifelong membership and support of the Chatom United Methodist Church.

I rise to extend my condolences to his wife, Eva, and four children, Joseph, Marc, Pier, and Patrice Pelham, and 12 grandchildren.

May his family know that they are in our thoughts and prayers at this difficult time.

IN OPPOSITION TO THE STUPAK AMENDMENT

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

Ms. LEE of California. Madam Speaker, I rise to join my colleagues in opposition to further restrictions on the constitutionally guaranteed right to abortion.

Last night the other body wisely defeated an amendment mirrored on the Stupak language that would have gone far and away beyond the current Hyde Amendment restrictions on abortion law.

That amendment, like the Stupak amendment we adopted in the House represented a blatant attack on women.

It attempts to dictate how individual Americans can spend their own money. That is simply outrageous.

The federal government has no place inserting itself between the medical decisions that a woman makes with her doctor.

This is a democracy, not a theocracy. The religious views of some should not dictate public policy for all.

We've got to follow the Senate's lead and strip the Stupak language from the final health reform bill and ensure that woman can exercise their right to seek an abortion.

We cannot and should not compromise away the rights of women to win votes.

We have already compromised far too much.

IN RECOGNITION OF ROBERT K. MCCLEARY

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, Representatives GEORGE MILLER, Representative JERRY MCNEARNEY and I rise today in honor of Robert McCleary, who has served as the Executive Director for the Contra Costa Transportation Authority for the last 20 years. As his colleagues, friends and family gather together to celebrate the next chapter of his life, we ask all of our colleagues to join us in saluting this outstanding public servant.

Bob McCleary's visionary efforts and hard work have benefited this generation and will benefit many more generations in the years to come. Transportation projects such as the BART extension to Pittsburg/BayPoint, the widening of Routes 4, 242 and 680, the Richmond Parkway, the intermodal stations at Richmond and Martinez, along with numerous other local transportation improvements have all been constructed under Bob McCleary's stay at the Contra Costa Transportation Authority and serve as a true testament to his judicious hard work and dedication.

Bob McCleary was faced with the daunting task of implementing Contra Costa's first transportation sales tax—Measure C—passed by the voters in 1988. Bob McCleary has

worked diligently to ensure that the transportation sales tax program has been executed in an efficient, effective and equitable manner, consistent with the voters' intent. He recently played an integral role in establishing the necessary consensus building efforts leading to the successful passage in 2004, of Measure J—the successor transportation sales tax to Measure C. His legacy will live on in this Measure and in a series of transportation projects that are instrumental and essential to the communities they serve.

Prior to serving as the executive director for the Contra Costa Transportation Authority, Bob McCleary was also involved in other regional programs such as the Santa Clara County Traffic Authority where he served as the Deputy Director for Project Management. During Bob's stay at the Santa Clara County Traffic Authority he helped establish the new authority and manage the day to day project implementation of a \$1 billion dollar local sales tax program. This program would fund three State highways, the first of its kind in California and relied heavily on a partnership with Caltrans, local government, and the private sector for success. Bob McCleary made sure it became a success.

Madam Speaker, we are truly honored to pay tribute to our friend and dedicated public servant. We ask all of our colleagues to join with us in thanking Robert McCleary for his long and dedicated service to the citizens of California and wishing him continued success and happiness in all of his future endeavors along with a happy retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN BARROW

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

Mr. BARROW. Madam Speaker, due to the death of a family member, I was absent from the House for the week of November 30 and thus not recorded for any votes that week. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following way on bills considered by the House:

On rollcall vote No. 911, on H.R. 3029, I would have voted "yea";

On rollcall vote No. 912, on H.R. 727, I would have voted "yea";

On rollcall vote No. 913, on H.R. 3667, I would have voted "yea";

On rollcall vote No. 914, on H. Res. 494, I would have voted "yea";

On rollcall vote No. 915, on H. Con. Res. 129, I would have voted "yea";

On rollcall vote No. 916, on H. Res. 861, I would have voted "yea";

On rollcall vote No. 917, on H. Res. 897, I would have voted "yea";

On rollcall vote No. 918, on H.R. 3634, I would have voted "yea";

On rollcall vote No. 919, on H.R. 515, I would have voted "yea";

On rollcall vote No. 920, on H. Con. Res. 197, I would have voted "yea";

On rollcall vote No. 921, on H.R. 1242, I would have voted "yea";

On rollcall vote No. 922, on H.R. 3980, I would have voted "yea";

On rollcall vote No. 923, on the Motion on Ordering the Previous Question on the Rule for H.R. 4154, I would have voted "yea";

On rollcall vote No. 924, on H. Res. 941, I would have voted "yea";

On rollcall vote No. 925, on approving the Journal, I would have voted "yea";

On rollcall vote No. 926, on H. Res. 28, I would have voted "yea";

On rollcall vote No. 927, on the Motion to Table the Appeal of the Ruling of the Chair, I would have voted "yea";

On rollcall vote No. 928, on the Motion to Recommit H.R. 4154, I would have voted "nay";

On rollcall vote No. 929, on H.R. 4154, I would have voted "yea";

On rollcall vote No. 930, on H.R. 3570, I would have voted "yea".

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

Mr. GONZALEZ. Madam Speaker, a personal matter prevented my presence in the House this past Thursday, December 03, 2009. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on final passage of the Permanent Estate Tax Relief for Families, Farmers, and Small Businesses Act of 2009 (H.R. 4154).

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, on Tuesday, December 8, 2009, I was unable to be present for recorded votes because I was attending the memorial service held in Tacoma, Washington for the four police officers of the Lakewood Police Department who were killed last week in the line of duty.

Had I been present, I would have voted: "yes" on rollcall vote No. 931 (on the motion to instruct conferees on H.R. 3288); "yes" on rollcall vote No. 932 (on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Con. Res. 199, as amended); "yes" on rollcall vote No. 933 (on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Con. Res. 206, as amended); "yes" on rollcall vote No. 934 (on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 940); "yes" on rollcall vote No. 935 (on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 845, as amended); "yes" on rollcall vote No. 936 (on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 2278, as amended); "yes" on rollcall vote No. 937 (on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 915); "yes" on rollcall vote No. 938 (on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 907).

HONORING WORLD WAR II VETERAN MAURICE GLENN BELL, SURVIVOR OF THE USS "INDIANAPOLIS"

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of World War II veteran

Maurice Glenn Bell of Mobile, Alabama, who passed away on December 4, 2009, at the age of 84.

Mr. Bell proudly embodied the qualities that our nation has associated with the "Greatest Generation"—those Americans who were called to give everything for the defense of our freedom and the liberation of millions overseas. Mr. Bell was absolutely committed to serving his country in wartime, and after the war, he was a role model of character and courage in civilian life.

In 1943, when he was summoned to serve in the Second World War, Mr. Bell was already working as an electrician's helper in the Mobile shipyards. He joined the Navy and saw engagements in places we know well from our history books—including the allied invasions of Tarawa, Saipan, and the battle of the Philippine Sea.

But the World War II experience for which Mr. Bell is best remembered is uniquely linked to the vessel upon which he served—the historic USS *Indianapolis*. It was the *Indianapolis* that delivered the first atomic bomb to be dropped on Japan. And after the heavy cruiser was struck by two Japanese torpedoes in the middle of the night on July 30, 1945, Mr. Bell was among the 900 crew members who were able to get into the water in an attempt to save themselves.

Mr. Bell and his comrades spent four days in the unforgiving ocean awaiting rescue—an ordeal that subjected them to near constant shark attack and dehydration. Of the 1,196 men on board the *Indianapolis* before she went down, only 316 survived—including Maurice Bell.

Like many *Indianapolis* veterans, he had remained mostly silent about his experiences on those four fateful days in 1945. However, 62 years later, he was given a chance to tell his story before a national audience as part of the PBS World War II documentary, "The War." The Ken Burns film interviewed a number of Mobile area veterans, including Mr. Bell.

Mr. Bell also captivated local audiences who would hear his stories about those long days and nights adrift in a seemingly dark and bottomless sea. He urged them never to give up.

It is ironic that this veteran of the war in the Pacific was buried on December 7, 2009—the 68th anniversary of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

Alabama is fortunate to have so many veterans like Maurice Bell who love their country and answered its call in time of need. We will always owe them a deep debt of gratitude.

I join this House in offering condolences to his wonderful wife of 65 years, Lois Bell, and their three children, Beverly Gros, Bonnie Hall and David Bell, and six grandchildren and 24 great grandchildren.

May they be comforted in knowing that they remain in our prayers during their time of loss.

RECOGNIZING ARIZONA'S GIFT OF THE 2009 CAPITOL CHRISTMAS TREE

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the State of Arizona's